GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7588
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
RAILWAY USERS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact of not holding the meetings of the railway users consultative committee regularly;

(b) if so, the reasons for not holding the meetings regularly and the steps taken to comply with the laid down requirements;

(c) the facilities provided to the members of the users consultative committee both for Zonal Railway and Divisional Railway;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enhance the facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) & (b): As per constitution of Railway Users' Consultative Committees, Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committee (DRUCC) is required to ordinarily meet once a quarter but not less than three times a year, the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) three times in a year. A review of the number of meetings of DRUCCs/ZRUCCs, whose term ended on 31.12.2001 has revealed that a total of 22 meetings of ZRUCCs and 210 meetings of DRUCCs were held. These Committees have since been reconstituted with effect from 1.1.2002 to 31.12.2003. Instructions have been reiterated to all Zonal Railways to hold the meetings of these Committees and ensure that the meetings are held as per the provisions laid down in the constitution of the Committees.

(c) The various facilities enjoyed by the members of ZRUCCs & DRUCCs are broadly as under:

Facilities common to both ZRUCC and DRUCC members

(i) Non-official Members of ZRUCCs & DRUCCs are given free first class pass from the railway station nearest to the place of residence of the members to the place of meeting and a similar concession for the return journey along with one attendant in Second class. They are also paid Travelling Allowance/Daily Allowance for the days spent in the journey and in attending the meeting.

(ii) The Travelling Allowance of official Members is regulated under their own rules and borne by their respective departments.

(iii) The members can call upon a Station Master at any station or a Ticket Collector or Travelling Ticket Examiner who is readily available to arrange a check in his/her presence of a compartment or carriage where it is suspected that persons without valid tickets or passes are travelling.

(iv) They can enter the platform without purchasing a platform ticket on the authority of identity card issued to them. However, they cannot travel free in train on the authority of this identity card.

Facilities available only to ZRUCC members:

(v) There is a provision in the constitution to arrange Conducted tours for the non-official members of ZRUCC twice a year to places of importance from the railway point of view in different parts of their railway. However, if sufficient number of members are not forthcoming for a conducted tour, non-official members of ZRUCC are given facilities for travel by issue of passes individually as per an itinerary of their own choice on the basis of one round trip for conducted tour not arranged or participated in.

(vi) They are further authorised to inspect Book Stalls and Book Trolleys on the stations and also the Catering and Vending Establishments at stations and Restaurant/Dining/Buffet, Cars on trains, whether run by contractors or departmentally.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.